Calling attention to matters of urgent Pubiic Importance

(*i*) *Re* : Lock-out in the K. R. Mills Ltd., Mysore

Sri L. SRIKANTAIAH (Nanjangud).- Sir, I beg to call the attention of the hon. Minister for Law, Labour and Parliamentary Affairs to the lockout in the Krishnarajendra Mills Limited, Mysore.

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY (Minister for Law, Labour and Parliamentary Affairs).—Sir, the hon. member has given notice to call my attention to the lock-out in the Krishnarajendra Mills Ltd., Mysore.

The present unrest in Krishnarajendra Mills Ltd., Mysore is due to the non-implementation of the terms of the settlement dated 16th January 1967. As per this settlement the management were requested to pay Dearness Allowance from 1st January 1969 as per the previous system enumerated in the agreement dated 1st July 1963. As per the previous system, D. A. was required to be paid at the rate of 20 paise per point for every point rise above 327 points. In September 1966 the management and the workers represented by all the five Unions agreed to freeze D. A. at Rs. 110 per month for four months from September 1966 to December 1966, as the Mill was facing serious financial difficulties. As per this Agreement, the D. A was to be restored to the previous system from January 1967. However, in January 1967 the Mills were still facing financial difficulties and therefore they entered into a settlement, during conciliation proceedings, with the K. R. Mills Labour Association and K. R. Mills Staff Association, which are recognised Unions under the Code of Discipline. The K. R. Mills Staff Union which is an unrecognised Union also signed the Agreement. As per this settlement dated 16th January 1967, the workers were to get D A. at a flat and fixed rate of Rs. 90 per month. From January 1969 onwards the D. A. was to be restored to the previous system as per agreement dated 1st July 1963.

When the management did not restore the D. A. to the previous system from 1st January 1969, the workers became agitated and resorted to a strike from 1st February 1969. As a consequence of this strike, the management declared a lock-out with effect from 4th February 1969. The Assistant Labour Commissioner, Mysore, undertook conciliation of the dispute on 28th January 1969, but his efforts failed. The Con missioner of Labour visited Mysore on the 8th February 1969 and discussed the situation with the representatives of the management and the Five Trade Unions of K. R. Mills, in an effort to secure an agreement. He again held discussion with the representatives of the management and workers on 11th February 1969, but no agreement could be arrived at. I also met the workers' representatives on 17th February 1969 and, thereafter, the representatives of the managament, and advised the parties to come to an amicable settlement. Finally, on the 21st February 1969, a joint meeting of the representatives of the management and the workers was held in my

(SRI K. PUTTASWAMY)

chambers. I am happy to inform the hon. members of this House that an amicable settlement was arrived at during the meeting. As per this settlement, the management have lifted the lock-out from 22nd February 1969 and the workers have resumed work. Both the management and the workers' representatives have agreed for a voluntary reference of the demands to adjudication.

(*ii*) *Re* : assualt on Two College Boys in Coondapur.

MR. SPEAKER.—Next is the call attention notice given notice of by Sriyuths: B. M. Iddinabba, S. V. Agnihotri and K. Chidananda.

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಎಂ. ಇದಿನಬ್ಬಾ (ಮಂಗಳೂರು-2).—ಜರೂರಾದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಾಮುಖ್ಯತೆಯ ವಿಚಾರವೊಂದನ್ನು, ಎಂದರೆ, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ, ಕುಂದಾಪುರ ಟೌನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಬಾಲಕರ ಮೇಲೆ ಕೈಮಾಡಿರುವ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ತರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

SRI P. V. AITHAL (Suratkal).—Sir, I want to know whether hon. Members Sri K. Chidananda has signed the call attention notice, as to my knowledge, he has not signed the notice.

MR. SPEAKER.—It does not matter. Anyhow, I shall find out. Now, the hon. Chief Minister may reply to the call attention notice.

SRI VEERENDRA PATIL (Chief Minister).—Sir, there was no complaint about any incident in Coondapur Town on 5th February 1969. However, on 10th February 1969 intimation was received in the Police Station from the Government Hospital that 7 persons, who had sustained injuries as a result of an alleged assault had been treated in the Hospital. The local Police thereupon registered a case in Crime No. 36/69 under Sections 147, 341, 324 and 34 IPC and took up investigation. During the investigation of this case, it was alleged that there was incident of assault on Shri Sripathy Rao, son of Sri Halsnad Subba Rao, M.L.A. on 5th February 1969. This was not reported to the police. However, one Shri Rattadi Balakrishna Shetty, a student of Coondapur stated that on 5th February 1969 at about 5 p.m. there was an altercation between himself and Shri Sripathy Rao. According to him, again at about 9 p.m. Sri Sripathy Rao, his brother and others came in a car and beat him, Sri Rattadi Balakrishna Shetty and his friend Sri Karunakara Shetty near Shivaprasad Hotel. As no cognisable offence was made out, no case has been registered.

MR. SPEAKER.—There is the third name. It looks like Chidanand. I shall find out whether it looks like that. There is nothing wrong about it. Now we will take up Financial Business—discussion and voting on Demands for Grants.